

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE BRISTOL COUNTY WATER AUTHORITY

Wednesday, February 9, 2005

SENIOR CENTER, WARREN TOWN HALL, WARREN, RI

Pursuant to proper notice, the regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Bristol County Water Authority was called to order by Chairman Saviano at 6:00 pm, in the Senior Center, Warren Town Hall, Warren, Rhode Island. Executive Director Pasquale DeLise, and the following Directors were in attendance at the commencement of the meeting:

Bert Anger, John Jannitto, Allan Klepper, William Lavey, Jr., Ian Morrison, Joseph Rego, John Saviano, Frank Sylvia, John Veader

HOUSEKEEPING

Minutes of the following meetings were reviewed.

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, it was

VOTED: That the minutes of the Annual Meeting of January 19, 2005, be and hereby are approved.

Motion passed 8 to 1. Director Veader abstained.

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, it was

VOTED: That the minutes of the regular meeting of January 19, 2005, be and hereby are approved.

Motion passed 8 to 1. Director Veader abstained.

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, it was

VOTED: That the minutes of the Executive Session of January 19, 2005, be and hereby are approved.

Motion passed 7 to 2. Directors Veader and Morrison abstained.

AUDIT/FINANCE

Old Business, Director Anger reported:

1. Status of Water Resources Board Grant Requests. No news at this time.

2. Conveyance of the Child St. School, Warren. Report under Engineering Agenda.

3. Ordinance to Install Curb-to-Curb Paving. No news at this time.

4. BCWA Bristol Office. Mr. Peter Scotti, Real Estate Appraiser and Ms. Sandra Mack, BCWA Legal Counsel were present at the meeting. Ms. Mack outlined the laws applicable to the Authority, on the sales procedure. She walked them through the applicable laws and endorses the steps the Authority has taken. She explained that the Authority's actions have met the legal requirements under the Authority's Enabling Legislation and the General Bond Resolution. Mr. Peter Scotti explained both his initial appraisal and the addendum to his appraisal to the Board in detail. There was much discussion on the procedures used between the Board and Mr. Scotti. The original appraisal cost the Authority \$1,000.00; the addendum work was done at no extra cost to the Authority. Following Mr. Scotti's presentation, Ms. Mack explained to the Board that their original vote was taken in accordance with all proper procedures and was a valid vote. If the Board elects to take a new vote, they must be made aware that there is a default Clause, wherein the Authority would have to reimburse the High Bidder twice the amount of his deposit. Discussion was held in detail about the appraisal results and the surrounding properties in the area.

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, it was

VOTED: To reconsider the vote that was taken on January 19, 2005. Essentially, take the building and put it on the market through a realtor.

Motion failed 2 to 7. Voting aye Directors Lavey and Sylvia.

5. Watershed Protection Program. No news at this time.

**6. Pezzullo Avenue, Barrington, Emergency Installation of Water Main.
No news at this time.**

7. Senior Citizen Discount (at the request of Directors Veader and Morrison). Discussion was held on the cost to the Authority to keep the program, versus phasing out or doing away immediately with the program. Director Jannitto would like to notify the public, via the billings, about the program. Director Veader explained his reasons for eliminating the program immediately. And Director Klepper suggested reviewing several different plans to phasing out the program.

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, it was

VOTED: To do away with the Senior Citizen Discount, effective as soon as practical.

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, it was

VOTED: To table the motion until a review of Staff recommendation.

Motion passed 8 to 1. Director Rego abstained.

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, it was

VOTED: That there be no change in the Senior Citizen Discount.

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, it was

VOTED: To table the motion until a review of Staff recommendation.

Motion passed 5 to 3 to 1. Voting nay Directors Jannitto, Lavey and Sylvia. Director Rego abstained.

New Business

1. Quarterly Charge-Offs, Board reviewed list and Mr. Web Goodwin explained the Charge-Off procedures. Committee recommends approval. Upon a motion duly made and seconded, it was

VOTED: Committee recommends to approve charge-offs in the amount of \$5,520.30, as presented.

Motion passed unanimously.

2. Revenue Fund Capital Improvements Transfer. Committee recommends approval. Upon a motion duly made and seconded, it was

VOTED: To approve transfer of \$400,000 from Revenue Fund to

Project Fund Renewal and Replacement Account, as presented.

Motion passed unanimously.

3. Added Item: Cost of Legal Services. Board recommended sending this item to the next sub-committee meeting.

4. Added Item: Directors Birth Dates. The Board questioned why they all received phone calls asking for their birth dates. Executive Director DeLise stated it was in response to recent questioning of individual Board members being able to take part in the Senior Citizen Discount discussions. Upon a motion duly made and seconded, it was

VOTED: That all Directors be given a list of all the Director's birth dates.

Motion passed 6 to 2 to 1. Voting nay Directors Klepper and Veader. Abstaining Director Morrison.

PUBLIC RELATIONS/PERSONNEL

New Business, Director Sylvia reported:

1. Annual Pension Plan Actuarial Report (at the request of Director Veader). Subcommittee held discussion concerning payroll for the period of July 2003 through June 2004 and Committee was satisfied with results of that discussion.

Old Business

- 1. BCWA Awards Banquet (for information only).**
- 2. Recent Correspondence from the Town of Warren – Request for Executive Director to attend public hearing. No news at this time.**
- 3. Recent Correspondence from the Town of Bristol, Lead Testing Meeting. Executive Director DeLise reported that he had sent a letter to the Council concerning lead testing, but he had not heard anything new from the Town. Committee requests item off agenda.**
- 4. Customer Relations (at the request of Director Morrison). Committee requests item off agenda.**

ENGINEERING

Old Business, Director Lavey reported:

- 1. WTP Project Update. Randy Fouch, Engineer from Weston & Sampson was present to give a verbal update. Mr. Fouch explained he and his firm have been working with the Authority Staff since June. The construction phase of the contract has been completed. Weston & Sampson is now working with BCWA Staff in making the Plant ready for start-up. One of the areas of concern is in the backwashing of the new filters. The original drainage pipes were installed in the early 1900's and, due to their size, are not adequately regulating the backwashing procedure. He suggested installing**

metering devices, which would enable the Operator's to more adequately control the backwashing procedure. As they work through the system, he may be presenting other findings that will aide in the smooth start-up and operation of the new system. Director Klepper suggested that a list be presented outlining the significance or impact of any future findings. Mr. Fouch explained that that procedure is already in place.

2. Lead/Copper Rule – Public Incentive Program. No news.

3. Kickemuit Reservoir Fish Ladder. Meeting with low bidder scheduled for February 23, 2005.

4. Child Street School Rehabilitation. Subcommittee was presented with an update of expenditures. Contractors have begun mechanical work.

5. Shad Pipeline. Executive Director DeLise gave a verbal report.

6. Matters related to BCWA Discharge to Warren Sewer Plant. No news.

7. East Providence Matters. No news.

8. Matters related to Backflow Prevention Control (e-correspondence by Director Klepper) A handout was presented for future discussion.

9. Gracie Estates, Swansea. BCWA has filed a complaint against the subdivision 02/01/05.

New Business

1. Annual Maintenance Contract. Committee recommends approval. Upon a motion duly made and seconded, it was

VOTED: To award low bidder, Lannan, Inc. of Bristol, at a price of \$140,545, as presented.

Motion passed unanimously.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

The Executive Director's Report was self-explanatory.

NEXT STEPS

- 1. Public Relations/Personnel Committee Meeting, Tuesday, March 1, 2005, 5:15 p.m., Senior Center, Warren Town Hall.**
- 2. Engineering Committee Meeting, Wednesday, March 2, 2005, 5:15 p.m., Senior Center, Warren Town Hall.**
- 3. Audit Finance Committee Meeting, Thursday, March 3, 2005, 5:15 p.m., Senior Center, Warren Town Hall.**
- 4. Annual Meeting (Continued), Board of Directors Monthly Meeting, Wednesday, March 9, 2005, 6:00 pm, Youth Center, Warren Town Hall.**

Prior to the Board adjourning, Director Veader stated for the record that he is extremely concerned about the recent articles in the East Bay newspapers concerning BCWA. First, he wanted to commend Director Anger for his recent letter to the papers. Secondly, it seems that the East Bay newspapers jumped on the issue of the property sale without even attending any of the Authority's meetings. If the newspapers think that BCWA's meetings are so important, they should cover them on a regular basis, and not with second hand information. He was also extremely disturbed by the fact that he was misquoted in the articles. He feels they should report the news more responsibly and do proper research before they report on an issue.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:15 pm.

William J. Lavey, Jr.
BCWA Secretary